

СРЕДНЕ- И КРАТКОСРОЧНЫЕ ПРОГНОЗЫ
**MID- AND SHORT TERM FORECASTS OF VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS
IN KAMCHATKA (1956-2012)**

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The article provides description for methods and techniques of monitoring and prediction of volcanic eruptions, activity of expert councils, summary on successful forecasts, examples of undetected events and false alerts over the period 1956-2012 in Kamchatka. During the past 57 years the Kamchatka Volcano Observatory, the Institutes of Volcanology, Volcanic Geology and Geochemistry, and Volcanology and Seismology Far East Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences issued 29 successful forecast, including mid-term forecasts of paroxysmal volcanic eruptions at Bezymianny in 1956 and Shiveluch in 1964 and spectacular short-term eruption forecasts for Plosky Tolbachik, Klyuchevskoy, Karymsky and Shiveluch. Also about 20 successful forecasts were issued by the Kamchatka Branch of Geophysical Survey of the Russian Academy of Sciences. At the same time, considerable amount of undetected events and false alerts were registered as well. That is why the article presents analysis of low forecast efficiency and proposes possible methods to increase it.

Keywords: volcanic eruptions, volcanic hazard, eruption forecast, volcanic earthquakes.